



520.40381X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): T. ASANO, et al

Serial No.: 09/889,920

Filed: July 25, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR NON-DESTRUCTIVE
TESTING

Group: 2876

Examiner: H. Pitts

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 29, 2003

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application in response to the Office Action dated October 29, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-21 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and add the following claims in lieu thereof:

--22. A deficiency inspection method based on a magnetic-particle inspection scheme, comprising the steps of:

 picking up an image of a solution containing fluorescent magnetic powder applied on a surface of a specimen using a color video camera;

 detecting a deficiency candidate on said surface by using a green (G) signal component of said image acquired by said color video camera; and

 displaying said detected deficiency candidate on a screen .